



**Domestic Violence Coordinating Council
Treatment Committee
October 17, 2018, 10:00 AM
Middletown Police Department**

Minutes

- I. Introductions: In attendance were Ava Carcirieri (Family Court), Terry Pepper (DSHS), Shamla McLaurin (Catholic Charities), Dan Armstrong (CHILD Inc.) and via teleconference Ellie Torres (Family Court) and Blanch Creech (Turning Point at People's Place).

DVCC Staff in attendance: Aimee String and via teleconference Moe Monagle

II. Old Business

a. Batterer's Intervention Evaluation:

i. Continued Conversation about Recommendation #3

1. UK Batterer's Intervention Study

- a. At the April Meeting while reviewing recommendation 3, we discussed how to incorporate Survivor feedback into future evaluations of treatment programs. Aimee informed the committee about a study done in the UK and brought back information about the study to this meeting.
- b. Committee Members were provided a copy of the Project Mirabal Executive Summary. Available at <https://www.dur.ac.uk/resources/criva/ProjectMirabalexecutivesummary.pdf>
- c. Project Mirabal included information from "five telephone surveys covering six time points (over a 15 month period) for 100 women partners or ex-partners of men in [Intervention Programs]; the same surveys were completed with 62 women who were partners or ex-partners who did not complete a [Intervention Program]."
- d. The study noted some of the same difficulties that were previously identified by the committee including difficulty with the attrition rate.

2. Ava Carcirieri has done some work though Family Court where they looked at survivor's experiences as they went through the court system and was able to provide insight as to how they utilized input from survivors.
 - a. The study included 2 extensive interviews (1-3 hours)
 - b. \$25 gift cards were used as incentives for participants to recognize that their time is valuable.
 - c. Re-traumatizing victims was something that was taken into consideration. Ava has some information that she is willing to share.
3. The committee agrees that the input from the Survivors may be difficult to obtain but very important to include in studies moving forward.

b. Evaluation of Treatment Programs: Review of Recommendation 4:

"As a corollary, and in light of current budget difficulties in the state, seek external funding to expand capacity-building efforts, with a particular focus on data collection and future evaluations, designed to address local, state, and national interest in the efficacy of Batterer's Intervention Programs.

- i. The Committee would like to explore the possibility of doing another evaluation in 5-10 years and will further explore funding at that time.
 1. It was noted that the last evaluation was extensive and taxing on resources for the Batterer's Intervention Programs.
 2. In future evaluations it may be helpful to invite the University of Delaware, Statistical Analysis department to the table.
 3. The committee will need to think through things such as:
 - a. When/how do we identify survivors?
 - b. How do get our control group?
 - c. Careful planning of structured questions about the Intervention Programs

III. New Business

- a. Revision of the Domestic Violence Intervention Standards
 - i. Before creating a sub-committee to begin the revision of the Domestic Violence Intervention Standards, the committee believes it will be helpful to have an in-depth preliminary discussion to address a few things such as:
 1. What is successful completion of an intervention program?
 2. What is the expectation of individuals who attend programs?
 3. What are we calling the programs?
 - ii. The committee will utilize the January meeting as an open discussion to address these topics.

IV. Agency Reports

- a. Treatment programs reported that groups are going well but they are not seeing the bump in referrals that we were expecting to result from the Treatment Program Evaluation. Between 1/4 -1/3 are being referred through the criminal process and almost no women are being referred.

- b. The Law Enforcement Training will be held on November 5th at Del Tech in Dover. It is currently at capacity but anyone interested in attending can still be added to the waiting list.
- c. The DVCC is moving forward with the High Risk team in Kent County. They are currently looking for a coordinator. It will be a contract position.

V. Public Comment: No members of the public were present.

Future meetings

10:00 a.m. at Middletown Police Department

January 16, 2019

April 17, 2019

July 17, 2019

October, 16, 2019

Pursuant to DE Code: Title 29 § 10004 (e)(2), the Committee shall pre-announce all Executive Sessions; however, such agenda shall be subject to change to include additional items including Executive Sessions which may arise at the time of the Committee's meeting.